



Bernard A. Streeter  
Mayor  
City of Nashua



January 16, 2002

Renata B. Hesse  
Antitrust Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW  
Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Ms. Hesse:

In response to the Court's request for public comment on the proposed settlement in the case *U.S. v Microsoft*, I am forwarding my support for the settlement to the District Court and hope it will made part of the case's record.

As Mayor of the City of Nashua, I wish to respectfully express my support for the remedies and settlement laid out by Microsoft, the U.S. Department of Justice, and nine of the state plaintiffs

The small business community of Nashua has long supported a speedy and reasonable settlement to this case, and we believe that the proposal before the court meets both requirements.

After more than four years of waiting for this case to finally be resolved, the high technology community in our area and around the country has seen the protraction of it do much more harm than good. Profits, investments, and new jobs are down, while the pace of innovation and, therefore, demand, has fallen off.

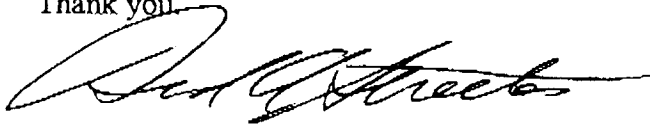
The current state of the economy – a full-fledged recession – in our view makes immediacy an even more important factor in settling the case than ever before. No longer is the drag on the high tech sector not noticeable. It is a major factor in the loss of jobs and lack of investment in the technology industry.

I believe the cultivation of this industry is vital to the success of any economic recovery and hope the court sees this settlement, as we do, as a step toward that goal.

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I hope my comments have helped illuminate the public impact of the proposed settlement, at least in our community, and hope also that you approve the proposal.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard A. Streeter", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Bernard A. Streeter  
Mayor